

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-16 and 21-24 are pending in the application, with claims 1 and 21 being the independent claims. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the above Amendment and the following Remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

In the Action on pages 4-9, section 3, Claims 1-16 and 21-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,815,415 to Bentley et al. (hereinafter, "Bentley"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

As amended, claim 1 recites a method of managing physical-file-based data adapted to be manipulated via a file-based computerized editor, wherein the physical-file-based data includes a physical file having a plurality of file elements, the method comprising the steps of: (a) ***representing the physical-file-based data as a plurality of individual components***, each individual component having a unique identity and identifier, ***wherein said individual components are adapted to be manipulated by a transaction-based computerized editor***; and (b) storing said individual components in a store. Bentley fails to teach at least one element of claim 1.

Specifically, Bentley fails to teach representing physical-file-based data as components that are adapted to be manipulated by a transaction-based computerized editor. Bentley discloses geometry-oriented approaches to define and represent engineering information (see, e.g., col. 1, ll. 16-20; col. 47, ll. 50-62). Bentley also discloses representing design information as components, which have identifiers (see, e.g., col. 37, ll. 31-51). However, Bentley does not contemplate being able to **use physical-file-based data** (data that is able to be manipulated by a physical-file based computerized editor) **in a transaction-based computerized editor**. In contrast, the method of claim 1 is directed to representing physical-file-based data in component form so that a transaction-based computerized editor can manipulate the data. The distinction between physical-file based data and transaction-based data is described, for example, in paragraph 0046 of the present specification.

Therefore, Bentley does not teach or suggest representing the physical-file-based data as a plurality of individual components, each individual component having a unique identity and identifier, wherein said individual components are adapted to be manipulated by a transaction-based computerized editor. The present inventors have created a novel addition to the Bentley reference that allows components to be manipulated using physical-file based tools. Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn and the claim allowed.

Claims 2-16 depend from claim 1 and are allowable as being dependent on an allowable claim.

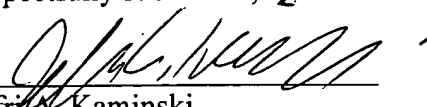
Claim 21, as amended, recites similar limitations as claim 1, and is allowable for at least the reasons given above for claim 1.

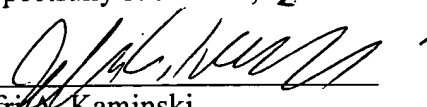
Claims 22-24 depend from claim 12 and are allowable as being dependent on an allowable claim.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

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Respectfully submitted, 

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